

TOWN ASSEMBLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 28, 1992 AT THE ARDEN GILD HALL

THOSE PRESENT:

Maria Burslem	Jean Brachman	Bernard Brachman
Pat Liberman	Cy Liberman	Eugene Shaw
Peter Renzetti	Bill Press	Tim Colgan
Charles McKean	Myrna Bair nv	Sally Hamburger
Steve Tanzer	Aaron Hamburger	Peggy Aumack
Skip Salkeld	Anne Berlin	Dan Szurgyjlo
Hays Butler	Irene O'Connor	Lee Starr
June Kleban	Cecilia Vore	Marianne Van Neerden
Sue Rothrock	Rick Rothrock	Debbi Laraway
Tom Ward	Rebecca Fisher	Liza Dolmetsch nv
Lew Aumack	Shaul Gladstone	Samuel Bean
Joan Colgan	Sylvia Hilliard	Robert Hilliard
John Stevenson	Susan Rohrbach	Bunnie Hurlong
Jocelyn Toman nv	Larry Walker	Susan Noonan
Edward Rohrbach	Elizabeth Varley	Sally Thurston
William Bailey	Richard Bloom	Tom Colgan
Debbie Theis	Mary Brent Whipple	James Schwaber
Ethel Monfort	Frank Akutowicz	Harold Monfort
William Theis	Paul Thompson	Rae Gerstine
Marianne Cinaglia	Sharon Kleban	Allan Kleban
Anne Oldach	Bonnie Burslem	Ruth Panella
John Demsey	Carl Falco	Hugh Roberts

Agenda Clarification: none

Approval of June Town Minutes: approved

Communications: Town Secretary reported on a proposed new telephone number for the Village, which will be listed in the 1993 telephone directory under Arden, Village of--and will be remote call forwarded to the Town Secretary's home phone number. There is not an official number to reach the Village at the present time and the intent is to have one central number for anyone trying to reach the Village for various information and communications.

Cy Liberman proposed a resolution to approve the expenditure for the telephone. All in favor - the budget for the expense will be on the November Budget Ballot which is mailed to each resident for approval or disapproval.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Gail Rinehart

1. The Village taxes will paid on September 29, 1992. The total \$147,643 includes 24 senior citizen rebates of \$342.79, and three others of \$267.81, \$214.25. and \$321.37.

2. It May be of interest to note that the total assessed value of Arden (excluding the non-taxed roads, commons, and forests) reached a record total of \$13,779,200. The total school and County tax rate applied against this is \$1.07123/\$100 of assessed valuation.
3. An estimate for administrative expenses in the amount of \$20,000 has been presented to the Budget Committee for inclusion in the 1993-1994 budget. \$7,968 of the above is for staff salaries, representing a 5% increase over the current year. The reminder includes office rent, payroll taxes, auditing, legal fees, insurance and a \$112 miscellaneous item.
4. Interest and other income is estimated at \$5,000, assuming an interest rate of about 4% on an average balance of about \$167,000.

Respectfully submitted  
Trustees of Arden - Shaul Gladstone

REPORT ACCEPTED

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT - Tim Colgan

1) Community Watch: We are pleased to announce that we have a new Town Watch Coordinator, she is Kate Bartolo of Woodland Road, Ardentown. To volunteer for Town Watch, please call Kate at 529-9488. If there are problems that the Town Watch should be extra aware of, or if you are going out of town for an extended period of time, please call Kate so she can make volunteers cognizant of this. In recent months there, has been an increase in vandalism around town - slit tires, broken windshields, smashed mailboxes. Please be the eyes and ears for the police and sign up for a watch. With everyones help, maybe we can decrease these criminal activities.

2) At the last Town Assembly we were asked to meet with the State Highway Dept. to go over their plan for installing a traffic accuated signal at Orleans and Harvey Roads. As you may recall we had petitioned the D.O.T. to investigate the feasibility of a light, and they responded that they would agree to a light. In August, members of the Safety Committee and representatives of Civic, Community Planning, the Town Assembly Chairman and other concerned citizens met with Raymond Pusey, Chief Traffic Engineer



of the D.O.T. At the intersection, he and his assistant staked out where the light supports and tripping devices would be installed. Construction would take approximately two weeks. There would be a pole at the corner of 1809 Harvey, the Press property, that would house the pedestrian crossing button. There would be another pole installed at the corner of Harvey and 2110 Orleans, the Kleban leasehold, that would be a support for the actual light plus would also house the pedestrian buttons for those crossing from that side of Orleans. There would be a third pole at the corner of Harvey and 2201 Orleans, the Tanzer leasehold, that would be the other support for the light. This is an important point: most lights need four posts, but Mr. Pusey assures us the configuration of this intersection necessitates only three. The final part of the construction would be traffic trip devices installed in the roadway approximately 300 feet on either side of the intersection on Harvey. This would necessitate cutting across existing driveways across Harvey. All residents to be affected have been informed in writing.

Remember, this a traffic and pedestrian accuated signal - if no one is attempting to cross Harvey or enter Harvey from Arden, the light will be green for traffic on Harvey.

Our cost towards this project would be approximately \$9,800

\$6,000 of which will come from Street Aid money from the state.

Thus, Arden's actual cost will not exceed \$3,800, an exact figure will not be known until constuction,

Construction would not commence before spring. Thus, the Safety Committee proposes the following: **MOTION**

The Village of Arden requests that the Delaware Department of Transportation proceed with the installation of a traffic and pedestrian accuated signal at the intersection of Orleans and Harvey roads. The maximum cost to the Village will not exceed \$9,800, \$6,000 of which will come from the Suburban Street Fund, provided that the money is passed by the November Budget Referendum.

Motion was approved 36 to 30

I may add, there will also be an ongoing cost to the Village to cover electrical usage - today's cost would be approximately \$50.00 per month.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Colgan, Chairman

REPORT ACCEPTED

### ASSESSORS REPORT

At this time nominations were taken from the floor:

1. James Schwaber    2. Carl Falco    3. Hugh Roberts    4. Hayes Butler
5. Sue Rohrbach    6. Rebecca Fisher    7. Cy Liberman    8. Pete Renzetti
9. Eugene Shaw    10. Bernie Brachman    11. Steve Threefoot
12. Yvonne King    13. Aaron Hamburger    14. Charles McKean.

The above names will be placed on the referendum.

REPORT ACCEPTED.

### ADVISORY REPORT: Marianne Cinaglia

The Advisory Committee has scheduled an additional meeting for the first Monday in November at the BWVC to discuss general Town business not directly connected with a particular Town Assembly meeting. The agenda has not been set at present.

Nominations for Town Committees will be presented at the January Town Assembly. If you are interested in running for a Town Office or Committee or know someone who is, please contact me or any other officer or Committee Chairperson.

The Registration Committee has requested that we petition the State Legislature to amend the Acts to Reincorporate the Village of Arden Section 9 Part (a) from:

(a) The Registration Committee shall consist of: (1) Three resident of the Village who shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting to serve for a term of one year or until their successors are duly elected:

to:

(a) The Registration Committee shall consist of: (1) Five residents of the Village elected by the Town Assembly. Three members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each odd-numbers year. Two members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each even-numbered year. Each member, so elected, shall serve in office for two years or until his/her successor is duly elected.

The Advisory Committee would like to make a motion that the Town approve this petition to change the makeup of the Registration Committee.

I move that the Village of Arden formally request the State Legislature to amend the Acts to Reincorporate the Village of Arden so that Section 9 Part (a) which prescribes the makeup and term of the Registration Committee will read:

(a) The Registration Committee shall consist of: (1) Five residents of the Village elected by the Town Assembly. Three members of the



Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each odd-numbers year. Two members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each even-numbered year. Each member, so elected, shall serve in office for two years or until his/her successor is duly elected  
MOTION APPROVED

The Advisory Committee, upon the recommendation of the Town Chairman, resolved that the Village should continue its membership in the Delaware League of Local Governments. The cost is \$250 per year and is paid for by administrative fund.

Jannie Stearns, one of the two members of the Playground Committee involved in a tie vote for a seat on the Committee will fill the 1 1/2 year slot since Bill Bush is not able to sit on the Committee due to other commitments.

#### REPORT ACCEPTED

#### ARCHIVES REPORT: Sally Hamburger

With the help of a grant from Crystal Trust and some contributions from the "Friends of the Arden Archives", we have purchased a fire-proof cabinet and a Panasonic photocopy machine. The file cabinet, located by Peter Renzetti, will protect Arden's historic documents and photos. The copy machine was chosen for it's high quality photograph and old document reproduction in order to make the collection more accessible to you and interested scholars. The machine is not geared to high quantity reproduction, but members of the Archives Committee are willing to make a few copies for you at cost.

To create space for these pieces of equipment, Don Holcomb and a team of helpers moved the Arden quilt into room #4. It looks wonderful there, it is much more visible in the larger room and we trust it will inspire you during committee meetings. Don has patched and repainted the wall in the Archives area and one some rewiring for the copy machine installation.

Summer work in the Archives was made bearable by the use of the Montessori air-conditioner. We have been working on identifying and cataloguing photographs.

The Archives Advisory Board has been reenergized by the addition of 4 new members: Hugh Roberts, June Kleban, Deborah Reinholtz and Trina Nelson. This Board continues to review policies governing the use and protection of archival materials. It's tedious work, trying to cover all the possibilities that might and probably will occur in the future and we rely on their care and expertise.

Yesterday's open house for current Arden artists and craftspeople was most enjoyable and we were able to get some group photos, taken by Carlos Alejandro, to use in a planned brochure. It will make the statement that Arden is alive and flourishing as an artistic community.

We spend much time responding to the steady stream of inquiries about Arden that emanate from our listing in the International Communities Directory. People are searching for community - reading the letters makes appreciate the uniqueness of what we have here. It's more than trees and green space.

The Archives continues to be open on Saturday morning from 10 AM - noon and by appointment.

REPORT ACCEPTED

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: Mary Irons

Due to an incorrect allocation of expenses of the Village Center in the amount of \$ 1864 - the Fund Balance have been adjusted as follows:

General Fund:	\$106,940
Municipal Street	
Aid Fund:	7,086 (no change)
Village Center	
Fund:	<u>389</u>
Total Fund	
Balance at	
3/25/92 year end:	<u><u>\$114,415</u></u>

REPORT ACCEPTED

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Larry Walker

Copies of proposed 1993/1994 Budget were passed to members of Town Assembly for discussion.

Motion:

That the Budget Committee put the amount of \$3,800 on the budget for possible expenditure for Traffic Light.

Motion approved.

Lew Aumack, Community Planning Chairman, requested that the amount budgeted for his committee be raised to \$150. This was seconded and approved.

REPORT ACCEPTED



BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Sue Rohrbach for Connee McKinney

Events: Campfire, Archives Open House, Fall Holiday Craft Workshops  
Origami Paper Folding with Cecilia, Natural Materials with Joan Colgan.  
Quilt moved to room 4. Answering machine for school, will ring 5 times,  
no need to take messages. Installation of phone for room 4 coming soon.

Keys will be changed, please return old ones.

WMS requests to residents to please curb dogs near Sherwood Green.

Request to Civic Committee to trim roots and low branches on tree.

Piano - will have piano looked at to see if it is repairable.

Reviewed finances from auditors report. Moved \$1800 expenditures  
for fire alarm expenses to Trustees column - not a legitimate maintenance  
expense.

REPORT ACCEPTED

CIVIC COMMITTEE REPORT: Lou Bean

The swales on Orleans Road and The Sweep long promised by the DOT  
have been installed. The contractor did a particularly good job  
on the one on Orleans Road. We are confident that no stormwater will  
turn the corner there and go toward Millers Road. It will instead continue  
down Harvey Road. The DOT has not yet installed a ditch to carry the  
water from The Sweep to their storm drain at Harvey and Lovers Lane.

If it can be avoided we will be happy. We will pressure the DOT  
to install it unless our observations show it is essential.

The same contractor who did the swales also bid on the Orleans

Road curbstone raising project because he was looking for work.

He was the low bidder and did a good job taking only three days.

Representative Wayne Smith had arranged for a DOT grant of \$5000

to cover the cost of this project. To get this grant we had to sign  
a contract to meet certain conditions. These included using the money  
only for the stated purpose. Since the total cost of the project is  
only about \$3900 we must refund the balance to the DOT. Payment should be  
received early in October.

We plan to replace about one hundred and fifty feet of ten-inch  
corrugated steel pipe which takes stormwater from the junction of  
Lovers Lane and Sherwood Road into the woods. The bottom third of  
this pipe has corroded away. We think it is of the same vintage as  
the other two sections of corrugated pipe we recently replaced. This  
would make it about sixty years old. It will be replaced with ten-inch  
PVC pipe.

We face some major expenditures for tree work in the future. Some of our  
trees on common land are very large and very elderly. A medium sized oak  
which was injured through loss of a limb is leaning toward the BWVC  
and is to be removed. The high oak stump left in the Memorial Garden five  
years ago is rotting at its base. There is a very large oak on Meadow Lane  
that gives us much concern. There are others.

REPORT ACCEPTED



COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE: Lew Aumack

Current officers are: Chairperson, Lew Aumack, Secretary, Debbie Theis. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM at the BWVC. Major items of consideration during the past quarter included the following.

Revision of Ordinance # 11 Due to the number of questions raised at the last Town Assembly, a joint meeting of all available members of the Safety, Civic and Planning Committees was convened to develop the 3rd (and hopefully, the final) reading to be presented following this report. The major change made since the 2nd reading relates to the proposed establishment of an Arden-based appeal system available to Leaseholders/Residents charged with violations of the ordinance ("encroachments"). All changes reflected in this latest reading are made with the full support of all 3 committees.

Potential development of land near the 3-Ardens. The NCC Comprehensive Plan "Growth Area (Five Year Growth Area) #2" involving 24 acres of a triangular parcel on the north side of Harvey Road just west of I-95 and east of Arden-town and the railroad, but south of Naamans Creek, is recommended for later development for 114 dwelling units. Conferences with NCC Planning Dept. representatives indicates that part of the parcel is the property of Ardentown but the far greater portion belongs to the Delaware Department of Transportation (DELDOT); and further inquiries revealed that the development of this parcel as a natural resource area or parkland "would not be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan". This committee, therefore, recommends that persons in Arden interested in developing a projected plan of development for these 24 acres contact our committee to form a study group, with initial committee help, to present well-defined alternatives to assist the NCC Planning Dept. in making future land use proposals having significant direct or indirect consequences for the 3-Ardens. While this committee would be willing to assist in this matter, it would not be considered as an official responsibility of same. Ardentown officials will be contacted similarly. In this, as well as other future development potentials, we recommend that Arden take a more active "proactive" (early-planning and proposing) role, rather than sitting back and waiting for developers to make proposals we don't like and merely yelling "NO".

Arden Memorial Gardens: Dave Burslem will be the committee's representative to obtain information and burial maps from Ethel Monfort.

Appointment of official representatives to the Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred (CCOBH) At the last meeting of the Town Assembly, Chairperson Bill Press appointed Chuck McKean to fill-out the one remaining year's term of Cy Liberman. Bill concurred with the recommendation of this reporter, however, that Chuck be appointed for the full 2-year term and that Lew Aumack, due for another 2-year appointment (in the absence of any other volunteer) be appointed for only the 1-year term: this will maintain the spaced overlap of the 2 appointees.

REPORT ACCEPTED



Third and final reading of Ordinance # 11: Peter Renzetti  
After the Ordinance was read a motion was presented.

MOTION: To accept the revision of Ordinance # 11. This motion was seconded and passed. ( copies of the Ordinance are on file with the Town Secretary and available on request)

A request was made by the Delaware Council on Crime and Justice to hang a banner on Harvey to promote an Antique Fair.

MOTION: To allow this organization to put the banner on Harvey if the State Highway has no objections. This motion was seconded and passed.

"YOU ARE WELCOME HITHER COMMITTEE REPORT: Jannie Stearns

The purpose of this committee is to welcome and intergrate newcomers into the life of the Village of Arden.. It's functions will include:

1. Contacting new residents as soon as possible, providing them with information about the government of the town, support systems available and an overall view of the social fabric of the community.
2. Connecting newcomers with a mentor where appropriate.
3. Sponsorship of community parties, including block parties.
4. Selling and discussing the Arden Book.

Our on-going projects: to have "Welcoming" parties on a regular basis to greet new residents, informing them of all the marvelous benefits we as a town can open to them and to encourage them to take an active part in the governmental structure as well as the cultural and social environment. We ask anyone interested in serving as a "greeter" and anyone with knowledge of new residents to contact Sally or myself.

We are asking this Town Assembly for a yearly budget of \$200 to cover the cost of packet material and party supplies (i.e. paper goods, wine and punch).

The next party is tentativley scheduled for February 93.  
next meeting, Monday, October 26, 7:30 PM. BWVC.

REPORT ACCEPTED.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE Hugh Roberts for Steven Threefoot

Both the Summary of Standing Committees and the Village Ordinances are ready for publication after final checking and proofing are complete. If committees would like additional information of their committee or related ordinances published with this document, please contact a member of this committee. Committee Chairpersons have been given a draft copy of the Committee Summary for review and comment. To date the only response has been from the Trustees.

REPORT ACCEPTED.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: Larry Walker for Pat Jordan

Equipment has been inspected and is safe for use. There are 3 more inspections scheduled.

REPORT ACCEPTED.

REGISTRATION REPORT: Yvonne King

Bill Press has appointed Jannie Stearns chairperson of the "Welcome Hither Committee". There are 398 eligible voters as of this meeting.

As most of you are aware, the Registration Committee has been working on a new procedure for the referendum. We believe the new procedure protects your right to vote, your constitutional right to privacy and is in compliance with the Act of Incorporation. The new procedure is as follows:

Ballots will be sent out to every resident, as has always been done. The return envelope accompanying each ballot becomes a "Resident Verification Form". The letter of instruction that accompanies each ballot will give the definition of "resident". The resident affirms his or her status by signing the outside of the ballot return envelope. The signature on the envelope will determine the residency of each person, and makes him or her an eligible voter.

All returned Resident Verification Forms (signed envelopes) will be counted, whether or not they contain ballots. That total will decide what the majority of voters must be to pass the referendum. You will continue to receive ballots for future referndums, even if you choose not to vote.

Should we find changes are needed in the new procedure they could be made easily the next time. That is the advantage in not making the procedure an "ordinance".

We are aware of the time it takes not only to pass an ordinance but to change it.

We donot believe we dare risk tying up the voting process in this kind of "ligation".

You will notice a change in the look of the ballot. They are shorter in size to better fit in the return envelope. Other changes are intended to make the information easier to understand, reduce the chances of error by the voter, thereby reducing the number of dis-allowed ballots and making the ballots easier to tally, which would also reduce the chances of tabulation error. We are extending the delivery time of the ballot to 7:30 PM on the evening of the ballot count, which will be November 1st 1992 in the BWVC. The Registration Committee will continue to get people to vote to the best of its ability. We hope all of you will join in this effort.

REPORT ACCEPTED

A motion to continue Ordinance # 12 "closing woodlands from dusk to dawn was then passed.

No old or new business was reported.  
Adjournment at 11:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Irene O'Connor *Irene O'Connor*